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The Director General of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) presents his compliments and has the honor to refer to the Memorandum prepared by the International Bureau concerning Reform of the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) (document PCT/A/32/2, copies of which have been transmitted with Circular C. N 2424 – 04, dated August 7, 2003, and are available on WIPO's website (<http://www.wipo.int/news/en/conferences.html>)). The Memorandum has been submitted to the Assembly of the International Patent Cooperation Union (PCT Union) for consideration at its thirty-second (14th ordinary) session, which will be held in Geneva in conjunction with the 39th series of meetings of the Assemblies of the Member States of WIPO from September 22 to October 1, 2003. It includes recommendations to the Assembly of the PCT Union concerning the work program of the Working Group on Reform of the PCT between the September 2003 and September 2004 sessions of the Assembly and the referral of certain matters to the Working Group for its consideration and advice.

Pending the Assembly's session, it is intended that the fifth session of the Working Group will be convened in Geneva from November 17 to 21, 2003. Invitations to, and working documents for, the Working Group's session would be sent after the Assembly's session and subject to its decision.

In the meantime, draft versions of documents intended for consideration by the Working Group will be made available on WIPO's website (see <http://www.wipo.int/news/en/conferences.html>) and subscribers to the electronic mailing list maintained in relation to the Working Group's activities will be informed. Copies on paper of the draft versions will be sent on request.

September 3, 2003